

### REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed May 22, 2002 for the above-captioned application.

Applicants request a three month extension of time and enclose the appropriate fee.

The claims have been amended by cancelling the existing claims and replacing them with claims 17-38. These claims present the subject matter in a manner more consistent with US practice. Further, the claims refer to a first plane and a second plane, rather than an alignable and a reference plane, since these labels provide for greater clarity. Further, where appropriate, the claims reflect the fact that the alignment device is attached to the first plane.

In the Official Action, claims 1-16 were examined. The Examiner indicated that claims 2 and 5-7 would be allowable if amended to independent form, but rejected claims 1, 3, 4 and 8-16. Claims 2 and 5-7. The from original claims 2 and 5-7 are found in new claims 18, 19, 20 and 34. Thus, these claims are presumed to be similarly allowable.

The Examiner applied US Patent No. 6,082,011 as anticipating the rejected claims. Applicants respectfully submit that this reference does not anticipate the claims as now pending. Independent claim 17 recites a device comprising a main part, a light source and a plurality of contact points, "wherein said contact points are connected to the main part and disposed to attach the main part to said first plane, and said light source is connected to the main part of the device in a position to emit a light beam with a scattering angle in a scattering plane." The Examiner has identified parts 16 as the contact points in the '011 Patent. These are ball bearings which permit the two plates of the device itself to move with respect to one another. They do not have anything to do with the attachment or positioning of the alignment device with respect to one of the plane surfaces to be aligned with another plane surface. It should further be noted that the plane of the light in the '011 patent is not parallel to the plane connected via ball bearing 16, but rather is substantially perpendicular to these planes. Thus, claim 17 is not anticipated by the '011 reference. Similar distinctions exist in claims 22 and 25. In addition, claim 36 and some dependent claims refer to alignment of pulleys, which is plainly not anticipated by a patent addressing vehicle wheel alignment relative to the center line of the vehicle.

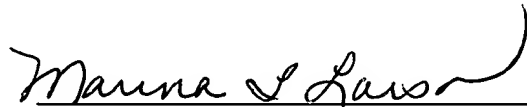
Addressing the Examiner's comments on claim 14, that it would be obvious to use multiple indicator devices, Applicants note that the indicator device the Examiner has identified

in Phillips is a bubble level. Applicants disagree that it would be obvious to include multiple levels of a relatively small device, since this would only increase cost while providing no increase in functionality. This issue is moot, however, as a bubble level is not an indicator device within the scope of the present claims. In the claimed invention, the indicator devices interact with the light emitted from the light source to facilitate alignment of the planes, and do not serve to level the alignment device relative to gravity.

Applicants wish to advise the Examiner that a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was filed in this case on June 27, 2002, after the mailing of the Official Action. Return of an initialed copy of the 1449 with the next paper is requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all of the claims are now in form for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully urged.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marina T. Larson", written over a horizontal line.

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